

# BRIEF VIEWS

By FLORENCE E. HILL

## PLAYS

**MR. SCROOGE** by Richard Morris, Dolores Claman, and Ted Wood. A musical comedy adapted from Dickens' story in two acts and five different scenes for any number of characters. 1963; Dramatic Publishing Company, Chicago. Books: \$1.25. Royalty: \$35-\$25-\$20.

The dramatization of the loved story of Ebenezer Scrooge with musical numbers has not changed the original story to any great extent. All of the well-known characters are there including Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, and Tiny Tim. Scrooge shows himself at his worst in his "Christmas Is a Humbug" number. Then dreams take over and the ghost of Marley shows him where his selfishness is leading. It is really a night of horror. Then comes the scene at the Cratchits' home with Tiny Tim and a changed Scrooge. The scenes are produced very simply with a traveler and the rest of the stage divided into two acting areas with a minimum of furnishings to suggest the scene. It is highly recommended because of the well-loved story, the music, and the simplicity of production.

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** by Anne Coulter Martens from the book by L. Frank Baum. A play in two acts for 8 M and 13 W. 1963; Dramatic Publishing Company, Chicago. Books: 90 cents. Royalty: \$15-\$10.

The musical version of this play has proved to be very popular, and now there is a play without music which follows the musical version closely. Dorothy meets each of the well-known characters: Scarecrow, Tin Woodman, Cowardly Lion, the witches, and the Wizard. Children and adults alike will love the play when the bad witches are foiled by Dorothy with the help of the good witches, and everyone gets his wish. The scenic requirements need not be difficult to meet. Each change of scene can be done with lighting, simple set pieces, and props. The play will be a welcome choice for Children's Theatre and for adult entertainment as well. It is charming, easy to produce, and just the right length to hold the interest of youngsters.

**THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS** by Carlo Goldoni. A play in two acts for children, translated and adapted by Frederick H. Davies. There are 13 characters. 1964; Theatre Arts Books, New York. \$1.40. Royalty: on request.

The scene takes place on a corner of a square in Venice in the eighteenth century. Detailed directions for construction of the single set and for the music are given in the book. The story was written by one who is to Italians what Shakespeare is to Englishmen. The plot reminds one of Shakespeare too, but was written two hundred years later. Beatrice Rasponi, a lady of Turin, disguises herself as her brother after her brother is killed by her lover Florindo in a duel. She follows Florindo to Venice to help him. In Venice Pantalone had promised his daughter to Beatrice's brother, but since his reported death he has given his consent to her marriage to Silvio, her childhood sweetheart. The plot is complicated when Beatrice arrives in disguise and impersonates her dead brother. Her servant, Truffaldino, decides to serve Florindo, as well as Beatrice, and much of the humor arises from his trouble to serve two masters. It is an interesting costume play for high-school actors to produce because of its similarity to Shakespeare. The complications are interesting, and the characters, especially Beatrice and Truffaldino, are excellent.

## INDEX TO VOLUME XXXV

October, 1963, to May, 1964

	Mo.	Pg.	Mo.	Pg.
'Authors, The"			Hidden Heart, The.....	Jan. 23
Oct. 8, Nov. 6, Dec. 6, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 8, Apr. 4, May		4	In Case of Murder.....	Dec. 21
"Back Stage"			Lilom .....	Mar. 29
Oct. 10, Nov. 8, Dec. 8, Jan. 11, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 6, May		9	Little Honey, A.....	Dec. 20
"Best of Broadway" (Dept.) q.v.			Look Homeward, Angel.....	Apr. 23
"Here's Love" .....	Feb.	26	Meet Me in St. Louis.....	Nov. 18
"Oliver!" .....	Jan.	26	Miser, The.....	Jan. 23
"110 in the Shade" .....	Apr.	24	Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House.....	Apr. 22
Best Thespian Honor Roll — 1962-63.....	Nov.	11	Mr. Crane of Sleepy Hollow.....	Oct. 20
Blank, Earl W.: "Plays of the Month" (Dept.) q.v.			More Than Meets the Eye.....	Mar. 28
Brief Views (Book Review Dept.) last page each issue			No Time for Sergeants.....	Jan. 22
"Camelot! I Heard Your Call".....	Jan.	13	Other You, The.....	Apr. 22
Dunlop, Richard S.: "Selling Your Play" (Series) q.v.			Poor Nut, The.....	Dec. 20
Ensley, Robert W.: "Staging Musicals" (Series) q.v.			Rebel Without a Cause.....	Nov. 19
Farnsworth, Rawley T.: "A Method of Technique".....	Apr.	12	Robe, The.....	May 29
"Harlequinade" .....	Oct.	13	She Stoops to Conquer.....	May 29
Hill, Florence E.: "Brief Views" (Book Review Dept.) q.v.			Thurber Carnival, A.....	Jan. 22
Hughes, Julien R.: "Harlequinade".....	Oct.	13	Ugly American, The.....	Oct. 20
"Indiana University Theatre, The".....	Apr.	13	"Problem Child and the High School Play, The".....	Feb. 14
Jones, Charles L.: "Best of Broadway" (Dept.) q.v.			"Rags are Royal Raiment".....	Jan. 14
Klamm, Robert W.: "Research, Lighting, Staging Can Work Miracles".....	Dec.	11	Reed, Frieda E.: "Theatre for Children" (Dept.) q.v.	
Laczko, Regina: "Camelot! I Heard Your Call".....	Jan.	13	Regional Conferences Oct. 26, Nov. 20, Dec. 23, Jan. 27, Feb. 27, Mar. 30, Apr. 25, May	32
"Method of Technique, A".....	Apr.	12	"Research, Lighting, Staging Can Work Miracles".....	Dec. 11
Meyn, Margaret L.: "1962-63 Look-Listen Opinion Poll".....	Dec.	10	Robinson, Horace W.: "Rags are Royal Raiment".....	Jan. 14
Moody, Richard: "The Indiana University Theatre".....	Apr.	13	Rotter, Catherine: "National Thespians in Europe".....	Feb. 13
"National Thespians in Europe".....	Feb.	13	Selling Your Play (Series) "Ground Rules, The".....	Oct. 14
National Thespian State Directors 1963-64 (pictorial).....	Oct.	22	"Through the Press".....	Nov. 12
"1962-63 Full Length Plays".....	Oct.	24	"On the Air".....	Dec. 18
"1962-63 Look-Listen Opinion Poll".....	Dec.	10	"Visual Display".....	Jan. 15
"Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts".....	Mar.	16	"School Promotion".....	Feb. 21
Phillips, Doyle: "Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts".....	Mar.	16	"Neighborhood Campaigns".....	Mar. 23
Plays of the Month (Dept.)			"Community Promotion".....	Apr. 15
Adam's Evening.....	Feb.	24	Staging Musicals (Series) "How to Succeed . . . If Really Trying".....	Oct. 15
Ah! Wilderness!.....	Feb.	25	"Who's Afraid . . . of Being Wrong?".....	Nov. 13
Big Fisherman, The.....	Feb.	24	"Beyond the . . . Lunatic Fringe".....	Dec. 14
Best Foot Forward.....	Oct.	20	"Carnival . . . of Color and Movement".....	Jan. 18
Birds' Christmas Carol, The.....	Nov.	18	"Best Foot Forward".....	Feb. 20
Boy Friend, The.....	May	28	"A Funny Thing Happened . . . When We Forgot to Remember".....	Mar. 24
Caine Mutiny Court-Martial.....	Nov.	18	"No Strings . . . Should Be Unpulled".....	Apr. 14
Carousel.....	Dec.	20	"Anything . . . Doesn't Go".....	May 25
Dear Ruth.....	Mar.	28	Television and Your Future".....	Mar. 22
Diary of Anne Frank.....	Oct.	21	Tenth Anniversary National Dramatic Arts Conference (Pictorial Preview).....	May 14
Double Door.....	Apr.	23	Theatre for Children (Dept.) Oct. 18, Nov. 14, Dec. 22, Jan. 20, Feb. 22, Mar. 26, Apr. 20, May	28
Fair Exchange.....	Mar.	28	Thespian Chatter Oct. 23, Nov. 20, Dec. 23, Jan. 27, Feb. 6, Mar. 14, Apr. 10, May	12
Glass Menagerie, The.....	May	28	Thespian Scoreboard.....	Nov. 23
Happiest Years, The.....	Feb.	25	Thespians in Action (Pictorial) Dec. 12, Jan. 24 Feb. 16, Mar. 20, Apr.	18
			Wickman, Richard C.: "The Problem Child and the High School Play".....	Feb. 14
			Winners, The.....	Dec. 23
			Wood, Gordon C.: "Television and Your Future".....	Mar. 22

# BRIEF VIEWS

By FLORENCE E. HILL

## PLAYS

**MR. SCROOGE** by Richard Morris, Dolores Claman, and Ted Wood. A musical comedy adapted from Dickens' story in two acts and five different scenes for any number of characters. 1963; Dramatic Publishing Company, Chicago. Books: \$1.25. Royalty: \$35-\$25-\$20.

The dramatization of the loved story of Ebenezer Scrooge with musical numbers has not changed the original story to any great extent. All of the well-known characters are there including Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, and Tiny Tim. Scrooge shows himself at his worst in his "Christmas Is a Humbug" number. Then dreams take over and the ghost of Marley shows him where his selfishness is leading. It is really a night of horror. Then comes the scene at the Cratchits' home with Tiny Tim and a changed Scrooge. The scenes are produced very simply with a traveler and the rest of the stage divided into two acting areas with a minimum of furnishings to suggest the scene. It is highly recommended because of the well-loved story, the music, and the simplicity of production.

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** by Anne Coulter Martens from the book by L. Frank Baum. A play in two acts for 8 M and 13 W. 1963; Dramatic Publishing Company, Chicago. Books: 90 cents. Royalty: \$15-\$10.

The musical version of this play has proved to be very popular, and now there is a play without music which follows the musical version closely. Dorothy meets each of the well-known characters: Scarecrow, Tin Woodman, Cowardly Lion, the witches, and the Wizard. Children and adults alike will love the play when the bad witches are foiled by Dorothy with the help of the good witches, and everyone gets his wish. The scenic requirements need not be difficult to meet. Each change of scene can be done with lighting, simple set pieces, and props. The play will be a welcome choice for Children's Theatre and for adult entertainment as well. It is charming, easy to produce, and just the right length to hold the interest of youngsters.

**THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS** by Carlo Goldoni. A play in two acts for children, translated and adapted by Frederick H. Davies. There are 13 characters. 1964; Theatre Arts Books, New York. \$1.40. Royalty: on request.

The scene takes place on a corner of a square in Venice in the eighteenth century. Detailed directions for construction of the single set and for the music are given in the book. The story was written by one who is to Italians what Shakespeare is to Englishmen. The plot reminds one of Shakespeare too, but was written two hundred years later. Beatrice Rasponi, a lady of Turin, disguises herself as her brother after her brother is killed by her lover Florindo in a duel. She follows Florindo to Venice to help him. In Venice Pantalone had promised his daughter to Beatrice's brother, but since his reported death he has given his consent to her marriage to Silvio, her childhood sweetheart. The plot is complicated when Beatrice arrives in disguise and impersonates her dead brother. Her servant, Truffaldino, decides to serve Florindo, as well as Beatrice, and much of the humor arises from his trouble to serve two masters. It is an interesting costume play for high-school actors to produce because of its similarity to Shakespeare. The complications are interesting, and the characters, especially Beatrice and Truffaldino, are excellent.

## INDEX TO VOLUME XXXV

October, 1963, to May, 1964

	Mo.	Pg.	Mo.	Pg.
'Authors, The"	Oct. 8, Nov. 6, Dec. 6, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 8, Apr. 4, May	4	Hidden Heart, The.....	Jan. 23
"Back Stage"	Oct. 10, Nov. 8, Dec. 8, Jan. 11, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 6, May	9	In Case of Murder.....	Dec. 21
"Best of Broadway" (Dept.) q.v.			Lilom .....	Mar. 29
"Here's Love" .....	Feb.	26	Little Honey, A.....	Dec. 20
"Oliver!" .....	Jan.	26	Look Homeward, Angel.....	Apr. 23
"110 in the Shade" .....	Apr.	24	Meet Me in St. Louis.....	Nov. 18
Best Thespian Honor Roll — 1962-63.....	Nov.	11	Miser, The.....	Jan. 23
Blank, Earl W.: "Plays of the Month" (Dept.) q.v.			Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House.....	Apr. 22
Brief Views (Book Review Dept.) last page each issue			Mr. Crane of Sleepy Hollow.....	Oct. 20
"Camelot! I Heard Your Call".....	Jan.	13	More Than Meets the Eye.....	Mar. 28
Dunlop, Richard S.: "Selling Your Play" (Series) q.v.			No Time for Sergeants.....	Jan. 22
Ensley, Robert W.: "Staging Musicals" (Series) q.v.			Other You, The.....	Apr. 22
Farnsworth, Rawley T.: "A Method of Technique".....	Apr.	12	Poor Nut, The.....	Dec. 20
"Harlequinade" .....	Oct.	13	Rebel Without a Cause.....	Nov. 19
Hill, Florence E.: "Brief Views" (Book Review Dept.) q.v.			Robe, The.....	May 29
Hughes, Julien R.: "Harlequinade".....	Oct.	13	She Stoops to Conquer.....	May 29
"Indiana University Theatre, The".....	Apr.	13	Thurber Carnival, A.....	Jan. 22
Jones, Charles L.: "Best of Broadway" (Dept.) q.v.			Ugly American, The.....	Oct. 20
Klamm, Robert W.: "Research, Lighting, Staging Can Work Miracles".....	Dec.	11	"Problem Child and the High School Play, The".....	Feb. 14
Laczko, Regina: "Camelot! I Heard Your Call".....	Jan.	13	"Rags are Royal Raiment".....	Jan. 14
"Method of Technique, A".....	Apr.	12	Reed, Frieda E.: "Theatre for Children" (Dept.) q.v.	
Meyn, Margaret L.: "1962-63 Look-Listen Opinion Poll".....	Dec.	10	Regional Conferences	
Moody, Richard: "The Indiana University Theatre".....	Apr.	13	Oct. 26, Nov. 20, Dec. 23, Jan. 27, Feb. 27, Mar. 30, Apr. 25, May 32	
"National Thespians in Europe".....	Feb.	13	"Research, Lighting, Staging Can Work Miracles".....	Dec. 11
National Thespian State Directors 1963-64 (pictorial).....	Oct.	22	Robinson, Horace W.: "Rags are Royal Raiment".....	Jan. 14
"1962-63 Full Length Plays".....	Oct.	24	Rotter, Catherine: "National Thespians in Europe".....	Feb. 13
"1962-63 Look-Listen Opinion Poll".....	Dec.	10	Selling Your Play (Series)	
"Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts".....	Mar.	16	"Ground Rules, The".....	Oct. 14
Phillips, Doyle: "Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts".....	Mar.	16	"Through the Press".....	Nov. 12
Plays of the Month (Dept.)			"On the Air".....	Dec. 18
Adam's Evening.....	Feb.	24	"Visual Display".....	Jan. 15
Ah! Wilderness!.....	Feb.	25	"School Promotion".....	Feb. 21
Big Fisherman, The.....	Feb.	24	"Neighborhood Campaigns".....	Mar. 23
Best Foot Forward.....	Oct.	20	"Community Promotion".....	Apr. 15
Birds' Christmas Carol, The.....	Nov.	18	Staging Musicals (Series)	
Boy Friend, The.....	May	28	"How to Succeed . . . If Really Trying".....	Oct. 15
Caine Mutiny Court-Martial.....	Nov.	18	"Who's Afraid . . . of Being Wrong?".....	Nov. 13
Carousel.....	Dec.	20	"Beyond the . . . Lunatic Fringe".....	Dec. 14
Dear Ruth.....	Mar.	28	"Carnival . . . of Color and Movement".....	Jan. 18
Diary of Anne Frank.....	Oct.	21	"Best Foot Forward".....	Feb. 20
Double Door.....	Apr.	23	"A Funny Thing Happened . . . When We Forgot to Remember".....	Mar. 24
Fair Exchange.....	Mar.	28	"No Strings . . . Should Be Unpulled".....	Apr. 14
Glass Menagerie, The.....	May	28	"Anything . . . Doesn't Go".....	May 25
Happiest Years, The.....	Feb.	25	"Television and Your Future".....	Mar. 22
			Tenth Anniversary National Dramatic Arts Conference (Pictorial Preview).....	May 14
			Theatre for Children (Dept.)	
			Oct. 18, Nov. 14, Dec. 22, Jan. 20, Feb. 22, Mar. 26, Apr. 20, May 28	
			Thespian Chatter	
			Oct. 23, Nov. 20, Dec. 23, Jan. 27, Feb. 6, Mar. 14, Apr. 10, May 12	
			Thespian Scoreboard.....	Nov. 23
			Thespians in Action (Pictorial)	
			Dec. 12, Jan. 24 Feb. 16, Mar. 20, Apr. 18	
			Wickman, Richard C.: "The Problem Child and the High School Play".....	Feb. 14
			Winners, The.....	Dec. 23
			Wood, Gordon C.: "Television and Your Future".....	Mar. 22

